

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 to 31 cancelled.

32. (new) An immunogenic composition which comprises a fusion protein comprising an HIV Tat protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Nef protein, wherein the HIV Tat protein or a mutant thereof and the HIV Nef protein are linked in any orientation, wherein the mutant of the HIV Tat protein is biologically inactive while maintaining its immunogenic epitopes and bears mutations in the active site and RGD motif, wherein the fusion protein is optionally linked to a fusion partner, and wherein the fusion protein is in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
33. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, comprising a Tat-Nef fusion protein or a mutant Tat-Nef fusion protein.
34. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, comprising a Nef-Tat fusion protein or a Nef-mutant Tat fusion protein.
35. (new) A composition according to claim 32, wherein the Tat protein is a mutant Tat protein wherein the mutant Tat protein is biologically inactive while maintaining its immunogenic epitopes and bears mutations in the active site and RGD motif.
36. (new) The composition as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the fusion partner comprises between 100-130 amino acids from the N-terminal of Haemophilus influenza B protein D.
37. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the Tat protein is the entire Tat protein.

38. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the Nef protein is the entire Nef protein.
39. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the Tat protein is fused to an HIV Nef protein and a fusion partner.
40. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the protein has a Histidine tail.
41. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the protein is carboxymethylated.
42. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32, additionally comprising an adjuvant.
43. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 42, wherein the adjuvant is a TH1 inducing adjuvant.
44. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 42 which adjuvant comprises monophosphoryl lipid A or a derivative thereof such as 3 de-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A.
45. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 42, additionally comprising a saponin adjuvant.
46. (new) A composition as claimed in any one of claims 42 to 45 which additionally comprises an oil in water emulsion.
47. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 32 further comprising HIV gp160 or its derivative gp120.
48. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 42 further comprising HIV gp160 or its derivative gp120.

49. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 45 further comprising HIV gp160 or its derivative gp120.
50. (new) A composition as claimed in claim 46 further comprising HIV gp160 or its derivative gp120.
51. (new) A protein comprising an HIV Tat protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Nef protein in Nef-Tat or Tat-Nef orientation, wherein the mutant of the HIV Tat protein is biologically inactive while maintaining its immunogenic epitopes and bears mutations in the active site and RGD motif.
52. (new) The composition as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the fusion partner comprises at least the N-terminal third of Haemophilus influenzae B protein D.
53. (new) The composition as claimed in Claim 32 wherein the fusion protein comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in a member selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 13, 17, 21 and 24.